

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 19777 180917Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-10 SMS-01 SES-02 SAA-01 SOE-02
AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08
DOE-15 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
OMB-01 PM-05 ICA-11 OES-09 SP-02 SS-15 STR-07
TRSE-00 ACDA-12 /144 W
-----022669 190518Z /11

R 180912Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5733
USDOC WASHDC
AMEMBASSY BERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 19777

E.O. 11652:GDS
TAGS: ENRG, IR, UR
SUBJECT: SOVIET-IRANIAN OIL NEGOTIATIONS

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. TASS ECONOMIC DAILY AUGUST 14
REPLAYS ARTICLE IN ETTELAAT ON IRANIAN OIL EXPORTS.
THE ARTICLE REPORTEDLY EMPHASIZED IRANIAN EFFORTS TO
INCREASE VOLUME OF DIRECT OIL EXPORTS AND NOTED THAT
"SOCIALIST COUNTRIES," ESPECIALLY IN EASTERN EUROPE,
ARE AMONG BIGGEST PURCHASERS. IN THIS CONNECTION,
ARTICLE MENTIONS THAT TALKS "ARE BEING HELD NOW" ON
DIRECT EXPORTS OF CRUDE OIL TO THE GDR AND THE SOVIET
UNION. END UNCLASSIFIED.

BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL.

2. COMMENT. AS ADDRESSEES ARE AWARE, USSR CURRENTLY
DOES NOT IMPORT CRUDE OIL FROM IRAN. SUCH PURCHASES,
UNLIKE THOSE OF IRANIAN NATURAL GAS, WOULD PRESUMABLY
BE FOR HARD CURRENCY, UNLESS SOME SORT OF SWITCH
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 19777 180917Z

ARRANGEMENT (77 TEHRAN 7607) IS UNDER DISCUSSION. WHILE
HARD CURRENCY IMPORTS OF IRANIAN OIL MIGHT MAKE SOME
MODEST DEGREE OF SENSE ON GROUNDS OF LOWER TRANSPORT-
ATION COSTS ALONE, ANY SUBSTANTIAL SOVIET IMPORT OF
IRANIAN OIL WOULD SEEM JUSTIFIED ONLY IF USSR COULD
GET IT ON SOME SORT OF BARTER BASIS, THEREBY DERIVING
MAXIMUM BENEFIT FROM INCREMENTAL HARD CURRENCY

EXPORTS TO THE WEST WHICH IMPORTS FROM IRAN WOULD PERMIT.

3. IN CONVERSATION WITH E/C COUNSELOR AUGUST 17, OFFICER FROM MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (MFT) ASIAN DIVISION SAID HE WAS UNAWARE OF ANY OIL NEGOTIATION WITH IRAN, BUT THAT IT WAS POSSIBLE SOME OTHER MINISTRY WAS INVOLVED. FACT THAT THIS OFFICER INVOLVED IN MFT POLICY PLANNING CASTS SOME DOUBT ON SERIOUSNESS OF ANY OIL TALKS THAT MAY NOW BE GOING ON AND SUGGESTS THAT THEY ARE NOT PART OF ANY REGULAR FOREIGN TRADE NEGOTIATION.

4. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFO TEHRAN CAN DEVELOP ABOUT THESE NEGOTIATIONS. TOON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: OILS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978MOSCOW19777
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780339-0680
Format: TEL
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780849/aaaabonf.tel
Line Count: 77
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: cde86f61-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1695743
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOVIET-IRANIAN OIL NEGOTIATIONS
TAGS: ENRG, IR, UR
To: TEHRAN
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/cde86f61-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014